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EDUCATION AND INFORMATION FOR DISARMAMENT

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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CUBA

[Original: Spanish]

[20 October 1993]

1. A series of activities were conducted in 1992 to enhance knowledge of the major issues related to disarmament and arms control among officials, military experts, professionals and other persons dealing with or interested in such issues.

2. The following were among the principal activities:

(a) A four-month post-graduate course on defence strategies and arms control, at the Higher Institute of International Relations, which was attended by a total of 20 students;

(b) Preparation of a post-graduate course on disarmament and arms control, which will be part of the training course for diplomats held annually at the Higher Institute of International Relations, which is attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba;

(c) A five-month post-graduate course on disarmament and international security for military experts, organized by the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for which several documents and papers and other types of course material were prepared;

(d) Lecture on disarmament and arms control at the headquarters of the Movimiento Cubano por la Paz y la Soberanía de los Pueblos (Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples) on the occasion of Disarmament Week, which was attended by leading figures and specialists from various national agencies and organizations;

(e) Lecture on the economic consequences of the arms race and other topics related to the disarmament and arms-control process at the National Defence College;

(f) Lecture on the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, and the measures being taken in the country to comply in future with its provisions at the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, and preparation of information on the matter;

(g) Lecture on the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, and the measures being taken to guarantee full observance of its provisions at the Faculty of Biology of the University of Havana;

(h) Interviews of Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials and military experts with various information media to discuss the measures being adopted at the international level to promote the disarmament and arms-control process and the role played by Cuba in that process, as well as the main positions taken by Cuba on the issue;

(i) Preparation and publication of various articles and papers dealing with various topics related to the disarmament and arms-control process;

(j) Inclusion in specialized, university-level programmes related to the peaceful use of biological agents or toxins, of the main elements of the biological weapons Convention that are felt to be required knowledge fur future specialists in this field;

(k) Workshop on aspects of security and disarmament in the European context, sponsored by the Centre for European Studies and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which was attended by over 50 Cuban specialists in this field and foreign guests.

3. The foregoing is indicative of the serious efforts made by Cuba in 1992 to comply with the above-mentioned resolution by increasing the general knowledge that our officials, specialists and citizens in general have of the disarmament and arms-control process being conducted at the international level within the United Nations system, and of the importance that the international community attaches to that process in the defence of peace and international security.

4. On the basis of those achievements and the experience gained, other activities are being prepared for 1993 to further strengthen and broaden the knowledge acquired by those officials, specialists and citizens in general of the disarmament and arms-control process, which is such a sensitive and important issue for our country. This reflects the seriousness and interest of the Government of the Republic of Cuba in complying, despite its current economic limitations, with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 46/27 of 6 December 1991.